

(CBC) the projects were appraised and loans were disbursed by the KVIC, which is not a financial institution. This also resulted in slow progress of employment generation schemes.

Loans for working capital

1201. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether loans for working capital amounting to Rs.272.27 crores instead of term or composite loans, as envisaged by CBC scheme, were granted by KVIC ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) The Khadi and village Industries Commission (KVIC) has disbursed an amount of Rs.291.50 crores (Rs.264.37 crores for Khadi and Rs.27.13 crores for polyvastra) to Khadi and Ployvastra Programme as term loans.

(b) The line of Credit of Rs.1000 crores from a Consortium of Banks was provided to the KVIC for term loan for generating additional employment under the KVI sector. The requirement of Khadi/Polyvastra units, however, was that of working capital, as those units required very little fixed capital. Khadi/Ployvastra institutions, therefore, are treating Consortium of Bank Credit (CBC) loan as working capital loans.

Promotion of coir products

1202. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that marketing and sales of coir products in the country still require acceleration;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to augment promotion of marketing and sales of coir products in the domestic market;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to establish raw-material banks in the country to offer raw material; and

(d) the approximate number of people engaged in this industry?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to augment the promotion of marketing and sales, marketing and promotional programmes are undertaken through publicity, participation in fairs, festival sale campaigns etc. Additionally, the Market Development Assistance Scheme helps in the marketing of coir and coir products.

(c) There is no such proposal.

(d) Approximately five lakh persons are engaged in the coir industry.

'Will' Service in Mainpuri, U.P.

†1203. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased state:

(a) whether Shahjahanpur, a Kargil martyr Anjani's village situated in district Mainpuri of Uttar Pradesh would be linked through Wireless in Local Loop telephone services by March under the rural scheme on the basis of priority;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when, telephones would start functioning in this village?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, it is planned to connect Shahjahanpur village of Mainpuri district through underground cable with Ghior Telephone Exchange. The work is in progress and telephone connections to this village are likely to be provided during the current financial year.

Recovery of loans Disbursed by KVIC

1204. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of loans amounting to Rs. 2315.51 crores disbursed by Khadi and Village Industries Commission up to March, 2000, about Rs. 1806.6 crore was pending for recovery as on March, 2000 and interest/penal interest recoverable and updated position of year-wise and loan-wise has been worked by the Commission;

(b) whether unsold stocks of KVIC increased from Rs. 30.96 crore in 1994-95 to Rs. 49.02 crore by the end of March, 2000;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.